

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Lt. Gov. Crouch, Indiana Broadband Office designate
City of Wabash as a Broadband Ready Community**

INDIANAPOLIS (Nov. 13, 2021) – Today, Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Broadband Office announced that the City of Wabash is now designated as an official Broadband Ready Community. The Broadband Ready Communities Program was created as a tool to encourage broadband development throughout Indiana.

The Broadband Ready Community certification sends a signal to the telecommunication industry that a community has taken steps to reduce barriers to broadband infrastructure investment.

“Our administration remains focused on getting high-speed, reliable internet service to unserved and underserved Hoosiers,” Crouch said. “Congratulations to Wabash as it joins more than 55 other Indiana communities that are now broadband ready. Other communities around our state have already benefited through the Broadband Ready Communities Program, and I am pleased to see the steps taken by Wabash leaders to attract broadband investment.”

The certification was approved by the Indiana Broadband Office following the City of Wabash’ adoption of a Broadband Ready Community ordinance.

“The City of Wabash is blessed to be served by two Gigabit Speed internet providers, however there is always room to improve and provide competition in my mind! Wabash welcomes Broadband service providers to our community as we strive to be a great place to live, work, and play and create a climate that is attractive to potential businesses,” said Wabash Mayor Scott Long.

According to Earnie Holtrey, Project Manager at the Indiana Broadband Office, multiple applications continue to be submitted to the Office monthly.

“The Indiana Broadband Office commends Mayor Long and the entire Wabash community. We stand ready to walk alongside the mayor to “Expose Wabash to the World and the World to Wabash.” I can think of no better way to accomplish this than by continuing to encourage quality, affordable connectivity for all,” Holtrey said.

Via 2020 legislation, the Broadband Ready Community Program was transitioned from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation ([IEDC](#)) to the Office of Community and Rural

Affairs ([OCRA](#)). [IBO](#) began the day-to-day management of the Broadband Ready Community Program on July 1, 2020. For more information, visit in.gov/indianabroadband.

-30-

Under the leadership of [Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch](#), who also serves as the Secretary of Rural Development, the Indiana Broadband Office (IBO) mission is to assist residents in need of affordable and reliable broadband connectivity. This mission of reaching Hoosiers where they live, work and play is accomplished by communicating with stakeholders, providing resources to a diverse audience, and leveraging established relationships with elected officials, associations, and providers. For more information, visit in.gov/broadband.